



EXHIBIT A

MARKED VERSION OF THE CLAIMS
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 09/396,539

--35. (amended) A method for producing a chimeric negative strand RNA virus, comprising culturing a host cell transfected with plasmid cDNAs containing a heterologous nucleotide sequence operatively linked to a binding site specific for an RNA-directed RNA polymerase of a negative strand RNA virus, wherein the host cell expresses [the] a polymerase [proteins] proteins, and recovering [the] a chimeric virus from culture.

36. (amended) The method of [Claim 36] Claim 35 wherein the host cell constitutively expresses the polymerase proteins.

37. (amended) A chimeric virus [rescued] recovered from the method of [Claim 36] Claim 35.

38. (amended) A method for producing a chimeric negative strand RNA virus, comprising culturing a host cell transfected with plasmid DNAs containing a heterologous nucleotide sequence operatively linked to a binding site specific for an RNA-directed RNA polymerase of a negative strand RNA virus, and with plasmid DNAs containing nucleotide sequences which encode [the] an RNA polymerase proteins, and recovering [the] a chimeric virus from culture.

39. (amended) The method of [Claim 39] Claim 38 wherein the chimeric virus is influenza virus.

40. (amended) The method of [Claim 40] Claim 39 wherein the heterologous RNA segment is derived from another strain of influenza virus.

41. (amended) A chimeric virus [rescued] recovered from the method of [Claim 40] Claim 39.

42. (amended) A method for producing a chimeric [influenza] negative strand RNA virus comprising culturing a host cell transfected with plasmid cDNAs containing the nucleotide sequences [encloding] encoding eight genomic segments from different strains of influenza virus, each of the segments comprising the reverse complement of an mRNA coding sequence for an RNA-directed RNA polymerase of a negative strand virus, wherein the host cell expresses [the] an RNA polymerase [proteins] protein, and recovering [the] a chimeric virus from culture.

43. (amended) The method of [Claim 43] Claim 42 wherein the host cell constitutively expresses the polymerase proteins.

44. (amended) A chimeric virus [rescued] recovered from the method of [Claim 43] Claim 42.--